

SPORTS

17th TITLE FOR SOVIET UNION



The USSR has won its 17th European women's basketball title, beating Bulgaria 91-70 in the final match in Budapest. Hungary placed third.

TENNIS CHAMPIONSHIP

More than one hundred tennis-players are contesting the 52nd USSR Championship. Among those who have joined the contest as individuals and as part of teams, are winners of the European Championship in Jur-

mala—Larisa Savchenko, Svetlana Chernova, Sergei Leonyuk, Alexander Zverev and other famous tennis-players. The contest is being played out at two tennis stadiums in picturesque parks in the city of Kherkov.



Moscow Fili edged Moscow Lokomotiv 13-12 in their continuing scramble for the national rugby championship top awards. Photo by Sergei Proskov



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"MN Information" comes out on Tuesdays and Saturdays and offers in brief the latest information on events in the USSR and in the world reported by TASS and foreign news-agencies.

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"Moscow News" and "MN Information" gives you a full idea of life in the Soviet Union for the week.

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MN INFORMATION No. 10

Surprises at the start

Czechoslovak side to bring in the "Rude pravy" pin. The championship starts in Moscow with an encounter between two international leaders—pace-setters, the Central Army Club and Klev Sokol. The exciting and hard-fought game has most surprising scenario in Klev side, which are inferior to their opponents as far as performance, roster and equipment go, refused to be the ending. With minutes left to go they led 3-2 and the Central Army Club had to go all the way to ultimately prevail, 3-3.

In other matches, Vodex Khimik beat Moscow Krylatskoye 4-1 and Riga Dzirze gave Novosibirsk Sibir 1-2, ending with a score of 6-1, doing so by making a comeback to the top division.

In the photo: the Central Army Club and Sokol fighting it out.

Photo by Andrei Krylov



AUSTRALIA OPPOSED TO CONTACTS WITH SOUTH AFRICA

Australia will continue to abide by the ban on sports contacts with the South African regime, the nation's prime minister Robert Hawke told the press in Canberra.

Australia flatly denounces the apartheid systems prevalent in the South African Republic, he said, and we deplore the fact that authorities in Pretoria are making huge money offers to lure sportmen from various countries to appear in South Africa. For instance, several sports federations in Australia

have received formal invites and lucrative offers to compete in South Africa but our sportsmen were totally disgusted with the idea and declined it.

Australia is looking forward to the day when the best South African sportmen, whatever their colour, will come to compete in all major events to achieve that the shameful effects of racial discrimination in South Africa has to be eradicated.

(Continued on page 2)

At the end of their tour of Soviet cities, the Indian masters of art gave a concert on the stage of the Variety Theatre in Moscow.

The performance of this Indian troupe (folk music and dance of Rajasthan) is very representative of the folk music and dances in the province of Rajasthan, situated in Western India.

Rajasthan has been influenced by Indian and Arab cultures. They give rise to hereditary professional groups of musicians and dancers. From among these, the Langas, the Manganiyars, the Kamads and the Kanjas make up the group performing in the USSR.

INDIAN PERFORMERS IN MOSCOW

At its regular meeting, the Politbureau of the CPSU Central Committee discussed efforts to devise a comprehensive programme to expand the manufacture of consumer goods and the system of services for the population at large.

The Politbureau stated that it is necessary to devise a comprehensive programme for the development of consumer items and a system of services for the people as part of the five-year plan failing between 1988 and 1990 and the guidelines for the USSR long-term economic and social development. The implementation will be with a view to better satisfying the varied demands and needs of the Soviet people.

The Politbureau of the CPSU Central Committee examined and approved the result of the meeting between the secretaries of the Central Committees of the Communist and Workers' Parties of the socialist countries on international and ideological issues held on September 20, 1983, in Moscow. It was noted that the Soviet Union will in close interaction with other countries of the socialist community continue to resolutely oppose the aggressive designs of imperialism and work for reducing the military threat as well as strengthening the peace and security of the peoples. In order to achieve these aims, the CPSU will continue its active cooperation with different political forces.

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IDEAS

The Politbureau of the CPSU Central Committee stressed that the unity and cohesion in the ranks of the fraternal countries of socialism, and their concerted and constructive peaceful international structure remain the most essential factor of stability in international relations along with their development in a direction which meets the interests of all the peoples.

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THE WORLD

WORLD ISSUES DISCUSSED IN EDINBURGH

London. With world tensions as they are at present it is imperative to continue dialogue, to maintain contacts and exchange free and candid ideas and views. stresses a statement issued following the latest round of traditional "Edinburgh Conversations" in the Scottish capital attended by noted public figures, scientists and specialists in the military-strategic area from the USSR, Britain, and the US. The Soviet delegation was led by "Pravda" Editor-in-Chief Academician V. Afanasyev. The conference covered vital world issues and ways and means of halting the arms race, especially in Europe, and consolidating East-West understanding and cooperation.

On behalf of the organizers, the Edinburgh University rector J. Burnett emphasized the useful nature of the discussion and favoured further exchange of views as part of the "Edinburgh Conversations".

GREECE REJECTS AMERICAN REQUEST

Athens. The Greek Government has turned down the American request to be allowed to use the Greek airfields on the island of Crete for artiling military technology and equipment to the American forces in Lebanon.

In its statement, the Greek Government says that this decision was taken in conformity with the provisions of the new Greco-American agreement on the principles of cooperation between the two countries in the military sphere. Under these terms, the American bases in Greece, including those on the island of Crete, can be used for the purposes of defence.

Considering that the situation



I only know one letter in this word.
Drawing by Konstantin Rybalko

LEBANESE CIVILIANS PETITION U.S. CONGRESS

Beirut. In West Beirut a mass anti-American demonstration was held by citizens of Beirut and refugees from the surrounding villages who are suffering from fierce rocket and artillery bombardment from ships of the Sixth American Fleet.

This decision by the Greek Government has found a favourable response among the public in Greece. Scores of organizations, alliances and democratically oriented political parties declared their support for the decision.

WEINBERGER TAKES A TRIP

Washington. US Defense Secretary Caspar Weinberger has set out on a 12-day trip which will take him to Japan, China, Hong Kong, Pakistan and Italy. While in Tokyo he is reportedly planning to discuss the "security problems" of the Far Eastern region and to whip up the anti-

Soviet hysteria mounted by Washington following the incident, which it hatched of the South Korean plane found on a spying mission over Soviet territory.

The prime motive for his Pakistani visit stems from the fact that this country is the chief

base of aggression for international imperialism against Afghanistan. Reports indicate that while in Italy he will focus on the US and NATO plans to deploy new American nuclear missiles in Western Europe.

Observers point out that his

VIEWPOINT

Eduard RYABTSEV

Lebanon today, what tomorrow?

The Lebanese Druze community, just like the other Moslem communities in Lebanon have to rely on Syrian help to defend their right to exist. But in the White House they ostensibly believe that to break the Lebanese domestic deadlock the Druze should be dealt with in the same way the Israelis disposed of the Palestinians in the Sabra and Chatila camps a year ago and in this manner bring about "peace and tranquillity" to this blood-soaked land.

Meanwhile the escalation of the undeclared American war in Lebanon assisted by the NATO multinational force threatens not only to sweep the entire country but even to spill over into neighbouring states. Washington is making no bones about the fact that its tremendous firepower accumulated there is needed to "liquidate" Syria.

But why is the American administration so upset with Damascus?

Primarily, we learn, because

and there is also a large French naval presence in the area.

One wonders whether Lebanon warrants all that attention.

The others are that by using the profile flag of the NATO multinational force as cover, the Reagan administration is hatching a real aggression against Syria.

Ostensibly Washington is relying

on exactly that tactic not just to

incapacitate an active opponent

of the Camp David deal but to

freely dispose of the Moslem

national patriotic forces in

Lebanon itself... to do what

Tel Aviv failed to accomplish

last year.

Damascus has already warned against any shooting at the positions of its troops from the international peacekeeping forces in Lebanon, and the Syrians are not going to abandon their Lebanese friends to their fate. In this Damascus enjoys firm support from the government of Muammar al-Gaddafi, which placed some Libyan armed units under Syrian command.

The growing combat activity of the US Marines and the threats being issued to Syria reveal a clear American desire to provoke greater hostilities in the Middle East. Another indication of this is that Washington has already moved into the Mediterranean a good dozen warships, among them two aircraft carriers, a battleship, as well as 10,000 Marines. Britain, for its part, has dispatched three aircraft carriers, one of which has dropped anchor at Beirut.

UN INDIGNANT AT AMERICAN REMARKS

New York. In the United Nations quarters, remarks made by the American delegate at the emergency meeting of the UN Committee on Relations With the Host Country are being regarded as an insult to the United Nations member-states.

As has been reported, the American delegate made a brazen statement in the effect that if United Nations members are unhappy with their reception in the United States, the Americans were ready to send their delegations sailing off to the East.

This cynical statement aroused considerable indignation among the delegates who arrived in New York to take part in the UN General Assembly session. Despite all this, President Reagan gave his open support for his insulting remark made by the US delegate.

This decision was resoundingly opposed by Senator Charles H. Percy, Chairman of the Foreign Relations Committee, who described as a "ridiculous attempt to undermine the organization designed to maintain peace and stability in the world."

According to statistics, only 440 thousand people in Lebanon are completely or partly unemployed. The country has a population of 3.3 million.

Our photo shows a Palestinian refugee camp outside Beirut.

FROM the SOVIET PRESS

A LONG OVERDUE PROBLEM

Veniamin Shurygin comments in PRAVDA on the support given by the majority of the participants in the 4th Committee of the UN General Assembly to the resolution on small territories governed by Western countries.

The elimination of these outposts of colonialism is a long overdue problem, the commentator stresses. The fact is that the governing powers regularly fail to fulfill their obligations to promote the political, economic and social progress of the population of these territories, to prepare them for self-government and independence, and to strengthen peace and international security. Conversely, they are trying to perpetuate their dominance of the strategically sensitive parts of the world.

The events in the South Atlantic, where Britain, backed by the United States, used armed force to restore its colonial domination of the Falkland (Malvinas) Islands, reiterated the pressing need of an early abolition of all the vestiges of colonialism, the author stresses.

ISRAEL AND SOUTH AFRICA: TIES

Analysing the political ties between Israel and South Africa, the PROLES OF ASIA AND AFRICA journal points out that the Israeli and South African rulers regard the preservation of racist regimes and the suppression of the growing national liberation movement in the Middle East and southern Africa as a priority task. The journal stresses that the anti-communist character of the alliance between the two states has become more rampant of late and the significance of military ties between them has increased.

The "special relations" established between Israel and South Africa have not been brought about by short-term considerations. On the contrary, they have developed into important factor in the foreign policy pursued by Tel Aviv and Pretoria, a policy which poses a serious threat to universal peace and security, it is emphasised in the article.

TO THE DETRIMENT OF JAPAN'S OWN SECURITY

Japan's militarist preparations have given rise to growing apprehension of late among its Asian neighbours, says an article in the NEW TIMES weekly, dated November 10.

The build-up of the combat might of the "self-defence forces", joint military exercises with the USA and the expansion of the Navy's sphere of action in the Pacific are indicative of the endeavours of the ruling circles of Japan to play an increasing military role in the region, the weekly states.

Document prepared by Japan's commission for security planning, coming under the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, stresses: It is not only essential to strengthen conventional armed forces, we should not forget about nuclear weapons either.

Such statements sound blasphemous coming from the politicians of the country which experienced the tragedy of Hiroshima and Nagasaki. And no allusions to a mythical "Soviet threat" can justify the counting on a nuclear policy as is done by certain circles in Tokyo, the weekly writes.

U.S. HEIRS OF GENERAL ISHIA

More and more details of the cynical and ignominious deal made by the Penangon with the Japanese war criminals who stockpiled huge reserves of chemical and bacteriological weapons between 1931 and 1945 have lately been coming to light, KRSNAYA ZVEZDA writes. The Japanese planned special hopes on these weapons.

Executives in white coats staged there barbarous experiments on people, mostly Chinese, Mongolian, American and British POWs. They meant by "science" the development and testing of bacteriological and chemical weapons. The main secret centre was "Unit 731" at the outskirts of Harbin, commanded by Siro Ishia, Lieutenant-General of the Medical Corps.

The mad General Ishia was brought to America "to share experience", the newspaper writes. As an adviser he helped the Americans conduct bacteriological warfare in Korea, where he went with his "equipment and tools". His advice and preparations were used to conduct chemical warfare in Indochina, which claimed the lives of two million civilians. Siro Ishia escaped the gallows and died in his bed in 1959. He was buried in a temple in Tokyo.

After Indochina, chemical weapons have been used by US mercenaries in Cuba, Afghanistan, El Salvador, Angola and quite recently in Lebanon, the article says.

ITALIAN POLICE SWOOP ON 'RED BRIGADES'

Rome. Police here have discovered an underground "operative base" of the Rome branch of the "Red Brigades", and have arrested five terrorists.

The most dangerous of them is believed to be Sandro Padula, who headed a group of militants. He is charged with nine murders, including the death of Vittorio Acciari, Vice-President of the Superior Council of the Magistracy.

Police have seized a quantity of weapons and explosives, including hand-grenades, machine-guns, and an anti-aircraft gun. They have also arrested five terrorists, including Sandro Padula, and are holding them in custody.

They have also arrested a number of persons, including a former member of the Red Brigades, who was

THE WORLD

FACTS and EVENTS



As winter draws near, hundreds of thousands of Lebanese and Palestinians whose houses were levelled to the ground by the Israeli occupation forces, are still roughing it in the ruins of their former homes or in tents and improvised shelters made out of tin and cardboard. Such are the shanty towns that have grown up in recent months on the outskirts of Beirut, Tripoli and other major Lebanese cities.

Our photo shows a Palestinian refugee camp outside Beirut.

Photo UPI-TASS

Science and technology

MORE LAND

FOR THE JAPANESE?

Honshu, the main island in the Japanese Archipelago, is not submerging but is slowly rising above the level of the Pacific Ocean. This conclusion, which refutes an earlier hypothesis, was made by a group of Japanese scientists, headed by the oceanographer Professor Hinzo Kamagami. It is based on analyses of soil samples taken at different depths from the seabed and on drill probes carried out from the research vessel, the "Clomar Challenger", off the northern and southern Pacific coast of Honshu. It was noted that at certain depths an entire layer of the earth's crust which in the scientists' view should have been formed three to fourteen million years ago, was absent. During the sample drilling, it was established that the rise of the seabed is most conspicuous off the south-west Pacific coast of the island.

PERU BREAKS AGREEMENT WITH USA

The Peruvian government has broken an agreement on air traffic concluded with the United States in 1946. In an official declaration, the Peruvian Ministry of Foreign Affairs suggested a new agreement to establish equal partnership between the two countries in this field. It is noted in part that the US Air Transport Commission has issued 150 flight route maps for the use of the peoples of the USSR. The publication of these routes in four Afro-Asian languages was recently completed. This is a unique edition.

Letters of Asia and Africa in mutual translations, 4,500 titles of belle-lettres, 50 Asian and African titles were put out in the past decade.

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Round the Soviet Union

THE FIRST BATCH OF LASER LANCES, A BASICALLY NEW SURGICAL INSTRUMENT, HAS BEEN PRODUCED AT THE SVERDLOVSK FACTORY OF ELECTRICAL MEDICAL INSTRUMENTS. Designed by Soviet specialists the laser will soon be in use at medical centres in this country. The designers' next task is to invent an instrument which employs an optical method to give a precise analysis of the state of a patient's peripheral blood circulation.

DELIVERIES OF PIPES, PILE TIMBER, AND TECHNOLOGICAL EQUIPMENT HAVE BEEN MADE ALONG THE FIRST WINTER ROAD DESTINED FOR THE GAS WORKERS AND BUILDERS ENGAGED IN THE CONSTRUCTION OF A GAS PIPELINE BEYOND THE POLAR CIRCLE. The line will connect the severo-Siberian gas field with Norilsk. The development of the northern part of the gas field has begun. The first six wells have been drilled, and communication lines put into place. The first gas from the new field will reach Norilsk in time to coincide with the 40th anniversary since the foundation of the USSR.

AT THE TOMSK CHEMICAL FACTORY, ASSEMBLY IS NEARING COMPLETION OF AN INSTALLATION TO PRODUCE 750 THOUSAND TONNES OF METHANOL A YEAR. Once the latter goes into operation, the factory will produce nearly one-third of all the valuable chemical raw materials produced in this country. Methanol is used in the production of synthetic resins, tissues and plastics.

RESTORATION WORK IS NEARING COMPLETION ON THE HODJA AHMED YASSAVI MAUSOLEUM — A MASTERCRAFT OF MEDIEVAL ARCHITECTURE SITUATED IN THE TOWN OF TURKESTAN, in the Chinkent Region of south Kazakhstan.

Education in the Far North

There is no profession more respected in the Far North than that of the schoolteacher. Teachers have won this reputation by selfless work. A few decades ago none of the minor nationalities in the North had an alphabet of their own. After the 1917 October Revolution thousands of teachers from various regions of the country went to the North. They were later replaced by teachers drawn from the local population. The first local intellectuals chose to be schoolteachers. They were educated in Moscow, Leningrad, Sverdlovsk, and at the teachers' training colleges which opened in the North, in the mid-1970s.

More than 80 per cent of the teachers in this area are now locals. With the help of Russian linguists' alphabets have been created for most of the 26 peoples living in the Far North and much attention is paid to the teaching of native language and literature.

Over the 1970s the schools in the Far North completed the transition to a general 10-year education for all, in line with the other schools in our country. Problems remain however arising out of the peculiarities



Pupils examine a new ABC book in their native Nenets language (the Nenets Autonomous Area).

of life in the Far North. The harsh climate, the vast, sparsely populated expanses — all this creates numerous difficulties for teachers. Many Northerners breed deer and hunt for their living, and are constantly on the move hundreds of kilometres. The problem of providing education in such conditions was solved by setting up board-

Medicinal peonies

In commercial production

Commercial production of medicinal peonies has begun at the Frunze ornamental gardening state farm, in Kirghizia. This rare and valuable plant normally grows in mountain meadows.

The farm will produce as many plants in a year as now takes several years to collect in the mountains. Pharmaceutical factories will increase their production of the medicinal peony tincture which is much in demand and in use as a tranquilizer and an anaesthetic.

Commercial production of medicinal plants is on the increase in the republic.

MORE OIL FROM THE CASPIAN SEA

A new exploration well in the Caspian Sea in the Azerbaijan republic has been connected to the main gas pipeline. The well has been drilled at the April 28 oil field. The shaft to the mine well, which is 3,600 metres deep, has enabled prospectors to determine the amount of oil in the soil and to start commercial drilling.

Although only three wells have been drilled so far, the amount of oil they yield is no less than that derived from some ground-based wells. They have all been drilled from stationary platforms.

The April 28 oil field is of great importance in prospecting for oil on the continental shelf.

At the moment, many prospectors are concentrated in this area. The field is several kilometres from the famous Neftyaniki Kamni (Oil Rocks) deposit, and the growing number of wells here are described as a satellite of the big offshore oil field. In this section, wells are drilled by two powerful movable drilling installations "Kaspromorneft" and "Shelf-1", and new stationary platforms are being built.

A MAMMOTH CRANE
The Zaporozhye power engineering mechanical plant in the Ukraine, the country's leading producer of giant cranes, is now working on the production of a powerful crane, the biggest ever to have been manufactured in this country. It will weigh 1,200 tonnes and will handle loads of up to 200 tonnes.

The nursery has been designed for a hundred million bees.

refuelling in flight; flights of unmanned probes to the Moon and back; the landing of a probe on Venus and Mars; and the replacement of cargo ships during the communists' sojourn on the space station. Today in this country, we can say to have a space industry, and cooperation between organizations specializing in space technology (space vehicles, scientific instruments, ground-based testing equipment, simulators for cosmonauts, light-control technologies, etc.) has been established. We have also evolved a methodology in the organization of the exploitation of space. All this serves as a good foundation for successful progress in, and the continuation of the intensive use of space in the interests of the further scientific, technological, economic and social development of this country, concludes Yeletsky.

THE THOUGHT OF PEACE: A PRIORITY FOR MANKIND

Today mankind can have no other thought on their mind as important as that of peace, writes Kirgiz Writer Chingiz Aitmatov in the RABOTNITSKAЯ newspaper. He said that this thought penetrates everywhere and affects everyone that it should capture the minds and hearts of each man and be regarded as the moral standard of the personality.

By combining the economic potential of each republic we have been able to expand cooperation and specialization, to distribute productive forces more efficiently and make the economy more flexible. The total profit derived from the national economy in this way exceeds by far the simple sum of the combined effects of each republic.

FROM the SOVIET PRESS

THE BENEFITS OF OUR COMBINED ECONOMIES

In making its contribution towards the economy of the country as a whole, each republic relies on the powerful productive forces created by the efforts of all the Soviet people, writes PRAVDA. Even at the time of preparation for the first five-year plan it was proved that the USSR could not build up and develop its national economy without taking full account of the natural, economic and national features of the "young" Union, without specialization or making full use of the advantage of the division of labour on a Union basis. It became obvious even then that it was only in this way that the best results could be achieved from public production.

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26 YEARS OF SOVIET SPACE RESEARCH

Over the past quarter of a century the Soviet exploration of space has advanced from the simplest form of Earth satellite to long-term use orbital space complexes, writes Alexei Velitskyev, Pilot-Cosmonaut, D.Sc. (Engineering), in the KOMMUNIST magazine. We have gained considerable experience in space flights in the vicinity of the Earth and in interplanetary cosmic flights, including flights with women on board.

The Soviet exploration of space has to its credit the successful completion of the following complex: technical tasks: automatic docking of spaceships in orbit;

GIANT HYDROCOMPLEX ON THE DON

At the Konstantinovka hydrotechnical complex, the reservoir for the water supply dam has been filled with water as the first stage in the commissioning of the hydrocomplex in the Rostov Region, south of the Russian Federation. The complex is designed to improve navigation along the lower reaches of the Don River. It will also release considerable amounts of water for irrigated farms, fisheries, and domestic and industrial water supply systems. The hydroengineers have undertaken to make it possible for the first convoy of ships to go through the locks in the complex this year.

GAS FOR GOMEL

Industrial enterprises in the south-west of Byelorussia will receive additional gas once the gas pipeline between Minsk and Gomel goes into operation.

Tests have begun on a kilometre-long strand of the line which has been laid successfully beneath the Osnov'ich water reservoir. The builders have started to lay the gas pipeline beneath the Berezina and Dnieper rivers, both rather complicated natural obstacles.

The 315-kilometre strand is to be put into operation early in 1984. It is an offshoot of the Torzok-Minsk-Ivatsivichi line which will deliver gas to Byelorussia.

BEE NURSERY FOR SIBERIA

A major bee nursery has been opened in the Irtysh area.

The leave-cutter bee, well-known "specialists" in opening and the intensive pollination of lucerne flowers, will be bred here. It is no accident; herefore, that the nursery has been built in the Cherkasy district near the Kommunist state farm which is the biggest supplier of seeds of this forage crop in Siberia.

Swarms of bees will be supplied to many other farms in need of "lucerne aphides".

The nursery has been designed for a hundred million bees.

disappear as soon as the ominous shadow of war has vanished. This movement is an irreversible process, part of the social awakening of the masses and spiritual revival of man.

SOVIET TV

Henrikas Juskevicius, Vice-Chairman of the State Committee of the USSR for Television and Radio Broadcasting, writes about the development of the TV network in this country in the SOVIECKAYA ROSSIYA newspaper.

Soviet Industry of late has been manufacturing good TV equipment. We now have studio equipment for colour TV, new movable TV stations and powerful communication satellites. All this adds up to high quality transmission.

TV viewers all over the world saw this for themselves in the summer of 1980 when the first rate TV broadcasts from the Moscow Olympics were watched on all continents—from Australia to South America.

The new TV centre which was built for the Olympic Games means that we are now able to transmit more programmes from Moscow. Not only the first but the second channel too is now transmitted to viewers in Siberia and the Far East with allowances being for time differences. The second channel is now watched by about 100 million people. The channel devotes much time to sport programmes, films and to television news. It also transmits programmes prepared by local studios.

Over the tenth five-year plan period (1976-80) colour TV broadcasts from local studios have increased by 12 times. 81 out of the country's 120 TV studios can now transmit colour broadcasts.

Colour TV equipment has also been imported to cities and towns which are far from Moscow, such as Arkhangelsk and Petropavlovsk-Kamchatsky, Novosibirsk and Magadan; Syktyvkar and Balaevskoye in the Komi Republic; and Khabarovsk, Tomsk and Komsomolsk-on-Amur. Ulan-Ude, Vladivostok and many other places.

HOME NEWS

Places to visit



Marikala: the old part of Tbilisi

Marikala is the old part of the Georgian capital, Tbilisi. It occupies the city centre and is crowded into the narrow curves of the Kura River.

The 10th-century Metekhi Cathedral is the best place to start a sightseeing tour of the town. It used to be the court of the Georgian kings.

From the cathedral one gets a wonderful view of the whole city skyline.

A monument to the founder of Tbilisi, Vakhtang Gorgasali, has been erected in modern times in front of the cathedral. The legend has it that it was on this spot that Vakhtang Gorgasali killed a pheasant which fell into warm water upon which its wounds became healed. The king ordered that a tree be felled on the site and that it be named Tbilisi, the Georgian word "bilis" meaning "hot".

The warm water was later recognized as the mineral spring which has cured countless generations of Tbilisians. Several old sulphur baths have been preserved in the town, decorated in exotic oriental style.

Science and technology

CRIOCENICS FOR IMPROVED ROAD-MAKING

Scientists from the city of Kharkov have invented a method for manufacturing tarmac at very low temperatures. The tarmac has already been used on an experimental stretch of road between Kharkov and Sumy.

By adding shredded rubber from old car tyres to the traditional asphalt-concrete mixture the road surface is improved: it becomes more elastic and long-lasting. The new tarmac is impervious to sharp changes in temperature and to severe frost. Tyres grip better on the surface and this makes driving easier and safer.

The tarmac can also be used to repair roads. This is the first result of the "Azot" programme, which envisages the use of cryogenics in different branches of the national economy. The programme is being implemented by scientists from the Low-Temperature Physics and Chemistry Institute at the Ukrainian Academy of Sciences.

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VIEWPOINT

Training specialists from developing countries

In the USSR

Vasily IVASHOV, Vice-Chairman of the State Committee of the USSR for Foreign Economic Relations

By the end of 1982 the State Committee of the USSR for Foreign Economic Relations will have signed intergovernmental agreements on economic and technical cooperation with 88 developing states. According to the terms of such agreements the Soviet Union will render technical assistance in the construction and reconstruction in these countries of about 1,300 projects. 700 of the latter have already been commissioned.

Soviet organizations try to ensure the efficient and profitable operation of enterprises which were built with their help. Much attention is paid to the training of local personnel so that the completed projects can be operated by nationals.

The Soviet Union has helped to train a total of 900,000 skilled personnel from the developing countries. Some received their training "on the job" in the course of the construction and operation of cooperatives built with the help of the Soviet Union. The rest were trained in the Soviet Union.

The history of the Bhilai steelworks in India provides an excellent example of how a core of national trained personnel was established with Soviet help.

According to a programme drawn up long before the works went into operation, 10 thousand Indians underwent tuition at a special training centre. Here the know-how and production experience of Soviet specialists were put at their disposal. A large group of engineers and technicians for Bhilai were trained in the USSR. Such measures contributed to the successful operation of the steelworks. Today there are about 30 thousand Indian engineers and skilled workers at Bhilai.

About 20 thousand engineers and workers from developing countries have received technical training at major Soviet enterprises and organizations, design and research institutes. Here they were taught how to work the equipment supplied to their countries by the USSR. The foreign trainees are taught free and provided with free medical care. The training of national cadres is just one of the tasks taken by Soviet aid to the newly industrialized states.

An increasing number of

ENTERTAINMENT

Theatre, Cinema and TV Stars

ALEXANDER GORBATZEVICH



The 28-year-old soloist of the Moscow Classical Ballet Alexander Gorbaczevich won the International Ballet Contest held last summer in Varna, Bulgaria.

A graduate of the Novosibirsk Choreographic School, he danced at the Novosibirsk Opera and Ballet for several seasons. His repertoire included solo classical parts, and he was preparing to dance the part of Count Alber in Adam's romantic ballet, "Giselle". However, the long-awaited day of the premiere proved to be an unlucky one, as during the performance he was seriously hurt. After a long

recovery, Gorbaczevich reappeared, this time on the Moscow scene, in 1977. The part was Arman in Khachaturian's ballet, "Cayane". His luck struck and he was injured again. Fate seemed to be sending Alexander one trial after another. As soon as the doctors permitted him to resume ballet class, Day after day, fighting off his pain, weakness and tiredness, he repeated the exercises, while slowly recovering the flexibility and lightness lost during the illness. In private, Gorbaczevich is reserved and quiet, using words sparingly. On stage, he is amazingly elegant, and so exquisite as to be considered aristocratic in his dancing style. His turns are lightning fast and his jumps very high, which allowed one of the critics to note that "the dancer has a splendid capacity to overcome the force of the earth's gravitation". The young man's dancing manner has a distinct precision and clarity of execution. His repertoire includes various roles—both classical and modern—the exquisite and masterful Oswald in the ballet by Jirívek and Červáček de Colobrano, "Nathalie, or the Swiss Milkmaid", the mysterious magician Prospero Alpanus in Karolínov's "Magic Jacket", a choreographic version of "King Zaches", the famous fairy tale by Hoffmann, sensitive Romeo and the sharp, ironic and even sarcastic Mercutio, in "Romeo and Juliet" to Prokofiev's music.

Alexander Gorbaczevich is a dancer who possesses an amazingly modern dancing intonation. This has enabled him to lend special colour to his performances of classical fragments from the ballets "La Sylphide", "Don Quixote", and "La Bayadère", and makes him sensitive to the choreographic techniques of modern ballet masters, the art directors of the ensemble—Natalya Kuznetsova, Vladimir Vasil'ev, and of Maurice Bojart and Roland Petit. Whatever he dances, we can always sense his desire to not only perform the technically complicated passages with perfection, but also to master plastic techniques and create a credible image in every part he dances.

First and foremost ballet is beauty, says Gorbaczevich. I see human perfection in the art of the ballet.

Yelena YEROFEEVA
Olga Pavlova and Alexander Gorbaczevich in the ballet "Weber", Opus No. 3.

SWEDISH EXHIBITION

An exhibition of paintings, graphics and Norrbotten folk art opened in Kishinev, the capital of Moldavia (in the southwest of the USSR). It was staged by the Union of Swedish-USSR societies and the USSR-Sweden Society.

This exhibition, including about 120 works by Swedish painters and sculptors, was preceded by an exhibition by young Moldavian artists, which took place in Luleå, the administrative centre of Norrbotten.

BITEF-83

Moscow's Lenninsky Komsomol Theatre is currently taking part in the International BITEF-83 theatre festival in Belgrade.

We were very pleased to be invited to the festival, which now ranks among the most exciting theatrical events and has won world acceptance, said theatre chief director Mark Zakharov. This is my second such festival. In the mid-70s we brought to the BITEF festival "The Routh" based on Alexander Fadeyev's novel and staged by

FACTS and EVENTS

Festivals. The interrepublican festival of organ music is continuing in the Lithuanian capital, Vilnius. Participating are prominent musicians from Moscow, Lithuania, Latvia and Armenia as well as guests from the German Democratic Republic.

Theatres. A performance of one-act plays by Russian playwrights has been a great success at the Vienna Theatre of Auersperg. The audiences saw a vaudeville play, "The Bear", by Anton Chekhov and several plays by Arkady Averchenko. Plays by Russian and Soviet authors have found a permanent niche in the repertoire of Vienna theatres. The famous Burgtheater is staging "The Cherry Orchard" by Anton Chekhov, and "The Summer Guest" by Maxim Gorky, while recently, the Volkstheater staged Chekhov's "Uncle Vanya".



THE ENDURING 'UNUSUAL CONCERT'

The first performance of the new season was presented at the Central Puppet Theatre led by Sergei Obrazcov.

I don't know whether the repertoire of any theatre includes a play which has toured more than 30 countries and 400 Soviet cities, as our "Unusual Concert" has," said S. Obrazcov. On the opening day the play was staged for the 6,443rd time. This colourful, festive performance continued in the theatre's repertoire for nearly 40 years, accompanying the theatre wherever it went.

It recently toured Leningrad, Klaipeda, Chita and Blagoveschensk.

The new, 53rd season promises to be a full and interesting one. The theatre is preparing two serious plays: the first premiere will be M. Bulgakov's play "Crazy Jourdain". The other new play of the season will be "Hi Song Again and Again" by A. Hall.

WHAT'S ON!

September 24-26

THEATRES

FILMS

Kremlin Palace of Congresses (Kremlin), 25 (mat), 26 — Variety concert. Bolshoi Theatre performances: 24—Adam, "Giselle" (ballet), 25 (eve) — Rossini, "The Barber of Seville" (opera).

Bolshoi Theatre (Sverdlov Sq.), 24 (mat) — A concert by the Bolshoi soloists; 24 (eve) Prokofiev, "Betrothal in the Monastery" (opera); 25 (mat) Wagner, "Das Rheingold" (opera); 25 (eve) — Kirennikov, "Love for Love" (ballet).

Stanislavsky and Nemirovich-Danchenko Musical Theatre (17 Pushkinskaya St.), 24—Khrennikov, "Dorothée" (comic opera); 25 (mat) — Morozov, "Doctor Doolittle" (ballet); 25 (eve) — Tchaikovsky, "Eugene Onegin" (opera); 26 — Tchaikovsky, "Swan Lake" (ballet).

Budding Soviet and GDR artists are exhibiting their works side by side in Moscow's Central Artistic Club at 14/10 Krymskaya Embankment. The motto "For peace and socialism" very accurately reflects the show's content. The exhibition culminates a bilateral international competition on political topics by young artists. Altogether, 1500 works were over 60 painters and graphic artists who exhibited nearly 350 years paintings, portraits and landscapes.

On photo: Thomas Zeigler, "A Diary".

EXHIBITIONS

SPORTS

WEATHER

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